

SC Annual School Report Card Summary

Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success
Horry County Schools
Grades: K-8 Enrollment: 147
Principal: Courtney Fancher
Superintendent: Dr. Cynthia Elsberry
Board Chair: Will Garland

PERFORMANCE

Comprehensive detail, including definitions of ratings, performance criteria, and explanations of status, is available on www.ed.sc.gov and www.eoc.sc.gov as well as school and school district websites. Printed versions are available from school districts upon request.

YEAR	ABSOLUTE RATING	GROWTH RATING	PALMETTO GOLD AND SILVER AWARD		ESEA/FEDERAL ACCOUNTABILITY RATING SYSTEM	
			General Performance	Closing the Gap	ESEA Grade	Accountability Indicator
2012	Excellent	Excellent	TBD	TBD	A	N/A
2011	Good	Average	Gold	N/A	Met	N/A
2010	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

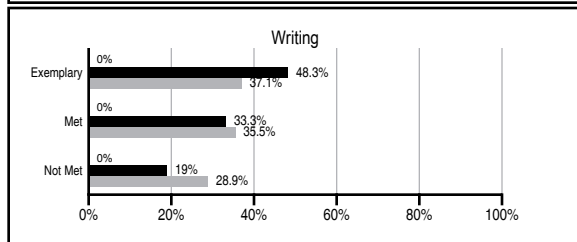
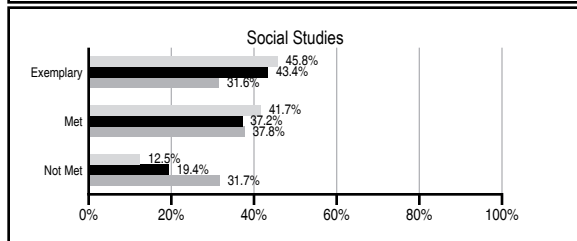
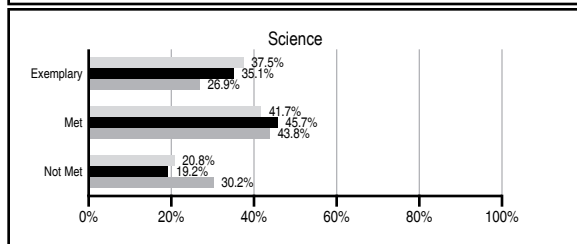
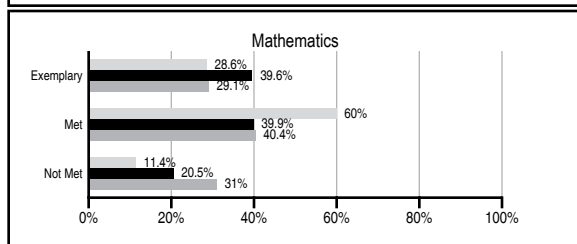
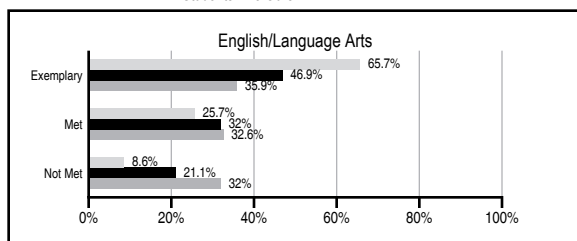
ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF MIDDLE SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

EXCELLENT	GOOD	AVERAGE	BELOW AVERAGE	AT-RISK
21	6	7	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by 11/07/2012. Schools with Students Like Ours are Middle Schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

PASS PERFORMANCE

Our School Middle Schools with Students Like Ours Middle schools statewide



NAEP PERFORMANCE*

* Performance reported for SC and nation, data not available at school level. Percentages at NAEP Achievement Levels.

READING - GRADE 8 (2011)

South Carolina	28	45	25	2
Nation	25	43	29	3
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

MATH - GRADE 8 (2011)

South Carolina	30	38	25	7
Nation	28	39	26	8
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

SCIENCE - GRADE 8 (2009)

South Carolina	45	32	22	1
Nation	38	33	28	1
% Below Basic % Basic, Proficient, and Advanced Below Basic Basic Proficient Advanced				

END OF COURSE TESTS - 2012

% of students scoring 70 or above on:	Our Middle School	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours
Algebra 1/Math for the Technologies 2	66.7	97.1
English 1	80.0	92.1
Physical Science	N/A	N/A
US History and the Constitution	N/A	9
All Subjects	72.0	96.0

SC PERFORMANCE VISION

By 2020 all students will graduate with the knowledge and skills necessary to compete successfully in the global economy, participate in a democratic society and contribute positively as members of families and communities.

Abbreviations Key

N/A Not Applicable N/AV Not Available N/C Not Collected N/R Not Reported I/S Insufficient Sample TBD To be determined

Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success [Horry County Schools]

SCHOOL PROFILE

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Middle Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Middle School
Students (n=147)				
Students enrolled in high school credit courses (grades 7 & 8)	100.0%	Up from 0.0%	35.5%	22.9%
Retention rate	1.4%	Up from 0.0%	0.7%	0.8%
Attendance rate	94.9%	Down from 95.0%	96.9%	96.2%
Served by gifted and talented program	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
With disabilities other than speech	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Older than usual for grade	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent and/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.3%	0.5%
Annual dropout rate	0.0%	N/A	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=12)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	16.7%	Down from 18.2%	62.1%	61.3%
Continuing contract teachers	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV	N/AV
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	88.8%	86.7%
Teacher attendance rate	N/R	N/R	95.3%	95.2%
Average teacher salary*	\$35,050	Up 0.4%	\$47,714	\$46,422
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	46.3%	Down from 56.6%	4.8%	2.0%
Professional development days/teacher	10.4 days	N/R	9.7 days	10.0 days
School				
Principal's years at school	2.0	Up from 0.0	4.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	12.9 to 1	N/R	23.4 to 1	22.0 to 1
Prime instructional time	N/R	N/R	91.2%	90.1%
Opportunities in the arts	Excellent	Up from Poor	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	No	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	98.4%	Up from 0.0%	99.5%	98.8%
Character development program	Average	N/R	Good	Good
Dollars spent per pupil**	\$8,132	N/A	\$6,753	\$7,245
Percent of expenditures for instruction**	61.0%	N/A	63.5%	63.1%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries**	51.4%	N/A	62.2%	60.9%
ESEA composite index score	97.9	N/A	92.6	88.1

* Length of contract = 185+ days.

** Prior year audited financial data available.

EVALUATION RESULTS

	Teachers	Students*	Parents*
Number of surveys returned	11	0	0
Percent satisfied with learning environment	100.0%	N/R	N/R
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%	N/R	N/R
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	100.0%	N/R	N/R

*Only students at the highest middle school grade level at this school and their parents were included.

REPORT OF PRINCIPAL AND SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL

Palmetto Academy of Learning and Success, a Palmetto Gold recipient, is a public charter school located in the Market Common area of Myrtle Beach. The mission of PALS is to create a small, diverse learning environment that accommodates each student's individual differences, learning styles, and development while promoting high expectations for all students. By providing meaningful and innovative learning experiences, instruction for multiple learning styles, access to technology, and encouraging family and community involvement PALS is committed to guiding students in the development of both their character and academic potential in preparation for their success as lifelong learners. The staff at PALS is committed to the reinforcement of PALS' rigorous curriculum and high expectations for all students with more than 75% of the staff members holding or actively pursuing advanced degrees and 60% of the elementary classroom teachers holding certifications as reading specialists. PALS serves students from kindergarten through eighth grade and maintains class sizes of only 18 students per class. PALS' eighth graders moving on to high school have had the opportunity to earn 4 high school credits – English I honors, algebra I, geometry, and computer science/keyboarding. PALS also offers a full day Gifted & Talented pullout program with an average student to teacher ratio of 10:1. Students in kindergarten through second grade also receive gifted & talented instruction each week from an endorsed gifted and talented teacher. This small, diverse learning environment with highly qualified teachers attracts families seeking academically rigorous curriculum and whole-child development. The 2011-2012 school year was filled with many significant accomplishments for PALS! PALS was awarded a 3 year grant totaling over \$225,000 that finalized this school year. The school also had two groups of teachers who were awarded \$1,000 each for innovative projects and PALS' teachers had over 10 projects (which totaled more than \$4,000 in materials) funded through community support. PALS started a local chapter of both the National Junior Honors Society and the Junior BETA club. Students had the opportunity to participate in sports and more than 10 afterschool clubs. The PALS' Science Competition Team took first place in the Tower competition at the Science Olympiad and placed in numerous other events. Each class participated in a community service project such as: a canned food drive, pet supply drive, cards & letters to nursing homes, letters to veterans, beach sweeps, and recycling programs. Our students also had the unique opportunity to meet and greet local veterans when they welcomed home our local veterans after an Honor Flight with cards, letters, pictures, and flags. We are looking forward to an equally exciting and rewarding 2012-2013 school year!

Courtney Fancher
Stephanie Meridith Executive Director Board of Director's
President

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NI Newly Identified CSI Continuing School Improvement CA Corrective Action RP Plan to Restructure R Restructure DELAY School Improvement Status HOLD School Improvement Status